



**PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 15, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.
Keizer Civic Center**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Beth Melendy at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:

Commissioners Present:

Kim Steen, Chair
Beth Melendy, Vice Chair
Laura Reid
Michele Roland-Schwartz
Felicia Squires
Andrea Madison
Lore Christopher

Staff Present:

Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Beth Melendy moved to approve the January 2022 minutes. Lore Christopher seconded. Motion passed as follows: Melendy, Reid, Roland-Schwartz, Madison and Squires in favor with Christopher and Steen abstaining.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS: None

GALLERY DISPLAY SCHEDULE: Lore Christopher announced that the Keizer Cultural Center is working with Siletz and Grand Ronde tribes and the Chemawa Indian School for an event to be scheduled for American Indian Heritage month in November of 2023. It will include display of tribal art and artifacts including jewelry, beading, baskets, drums and paintings. The displays will be at the Museum, Library and the Keizer Art Gallery. A 'soft opening' (preview) is planned for November 2022. Although October-November is already scheduled for display by Gary Hlastals, it is hoped that there will be room for a few Indian pieces as well.

APPROVAL OF JOEL NICKEL ART: Felicia Squires pointed out that the piece named "I Saw the Figure 5" was almost a copy of a piece by Charles Demuth with the same name. She suggested the piece be pulled or renamed to give homage to the original artist. Lore Christopher moved to approve the pieces submitted by Joe Nickel for display in the Keizer Gallery with the stipulation that 'I Saw the Figure 5' be either removed from the display or renamed to give homage to Charles Demuth. Beth Melendy seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Melendy, Reid, Roland-Schwartz, Madison, Squires and Christopher in favor.

REVIEW OF HOLIDAY CARD SUBMISSIONS: Commissioners suggested a green border be put around the artwork with 'Happy Holidays' printed in white within the

border to add a little more color to the piece. Lore Christopher moved to approve the Cardinal submission from Opal Fricke and, with the permission of the artist, that a green border with 'Happy Holidays' printed in white in the border be added. Andrea Madison seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Melendy, Reid, Roland-Schwartz, Madison, Squires and Christopher in favor.

STUDENT/EMERGING ARTIST DISPLAY: Staff pointed out that Rachel Wood is the daughter of Finance Director Tim Wood. Pieces were reviewed and praised. Lore Christopher moved to approve submissions by Rachel Wood for display. Michele Roland-Schwartz seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Melendy, Reid, Roland-Schwartz, Madison, Squires and Christopher in favor.

GRANT EFFORTS - Parks Matching Grant? Lore Christopher reported that the grant request was approved unanimously by the Parks Advisory Board at their March 8 meeting. She has met with Lyndon Zaitz of Keizertimes and he is doing an article on the project. Public Works Director Bill Lawyer had informed her that it did not qualify for this grant because the grant is a reimbursement grant, but since then, the Keizer Community Foundation has agreed to front the entire amount and be reimbursed.

Lore Christopher moved that the Keizer Public Arts Commission commit \$500 to this project. Michele Roland-Schwartz seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Melendy, Reid, Roland-Schwartz, Madison, Squires and Christopher in favor.

Michele Roland-Schwartz noted that an additional \$50 private donation had been received.

Ms. Christopher noted that this project is two-fold because the Hispanic culture uses mosaic art and, with all the emphasis on celebrating diversity, it fits into the desire of Council, in addition to enhancing an area park and making use of undesignated money that will just go back into the general fund if it is not utilized. She added that exposing children to art is important and that children are almost always enjoying the Sasquatch statue at Keizer Rapids Park and this would be just one more opportunity to expose them to art. Several members of the Commission indicated that they would attend the March 21 Council meeting to promote approval of the project funding.

PGE CONTACT REGARDING UTILITY BOX PAINTING: Moved to May agenda.

EAGLE SCULPTURE – CONNECT WITH SCHOOLHOUSE SQUARE OWNER:
Moved to May agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS: Felicia Squires will report to Council on April 4.

Lore Christopher announced that the Keizer Art Association is working to bring art to seniors. Grants are being explored to do this. It is hoped that through this effort there will be enough submissions to have a 'Senior Art Show' in 2024. Staff noted that the Community Diversity Engagement Committee had indicated that they wanted to recognize Seniors and that there had not been a proclamation recognizing Seniors since 1963 so this might be a good partnership with an observance coinciding with the display.

Lore Christopher announced that she had made a mistake on one of the story pole signs: the name of one of the funders was incorrect. Oregon Arts Commission should be changed to Oregon Community Foundation. Lore Christopher moved to replace the sign for the first story pole with one that has the correct funding parties – replacing Oregon Arts Commission with Oregon Community Foundation. Michele Roland-Schwartz seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Melendy, Reid, Roland-Schwartz, Madison, Squires and Christopher in favor.

Lore Christopher explained that with more art on display throughout the city, more funds are needed to maintain the pieces owned by the City and funding is needed to match grants as well. She suggested that the Commission request more funding during the upcoming budget cycle. Lore Christopher moved to request increasing the Public Arts Commission budget line item to \$6000. Andrea Madison seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Steen, Melendy, Reid, Roland-Schwartz, Madison, Squires and Christopher in favor. Kim Steen indicated that she would share an article she had read that stated that public art increases city revenue.

Staff distributed photographs of mosaic benches sponsored by businesses and individuals on display in a square in Puerto Vallarta Mexico and suggested that perhaps the Commission would want to consider these as a project in Keizer. It was suggested that perhaps as new focal points/gathering places are developed in the city, these benches could be included. Commissioners expressed support for this.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 17, 2022

Minutes approved: 05-17-22